

May 29, 2007

The Honorable Michael Mauro  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
L O C A L

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit House File 874, an Act relating to and making appropriations to certain state departments, agencies, funds, and certain other entities and providing an effective date. House File 874 is approved on this date, with the exceptions noted below, which I hereby disapprove.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of Section 19, unnumbered paragraph 2. This paragraph exempts the Office of the Secretary of State from paying State departments and State agencies for data processing services. There have been occasions in the past where the State has assisted with the development of electronic voter registration file maintenance projects. These projects have been completed and, therefore, this language is no longer needed. If a State agency or department performs service for the Secretary of State, they should be adequately compensated.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 25 in its entirety. This provision requires all the director of a department or state agency in House File 874 to examine employee telecommuting options, develop a telecommuter employment policy and implement a plan designed to increase the number of telecommuting employees. Many departments maintain employee telecommuting policies currently. These policies and procedures have been in place for several years and are well established. The designated language in Section 25 directing a department or agency to conduct an assessment of its telecommuting policy is duplicative and unnecessary and introduces a legislatively mandated management process into what is appropriately an executive branch decision. I will direct the Department of Administrative Services and the Department of Management to review the current state government telecommuting policy and make recommendations for any improvements as part of our overall executive branch strategic planning process.

For the above reasons, I respectfully disapprove of the designated items in accordance with Article III, Section 16 of the Constitution of the State of Iowa. All other items in House File 874 are hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Culver  
Governor

CJC:roo